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A note to subscribers:

November 11 to 17 is a constituency break at the Alberta Legislature. The next issue of *Alberta Scan* will be published on November 23 after the Legislature resumes. ❑

Alberta Scan

Issue 1080

week ending 9 November 2018

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In a report to the Legislature, Auditor General (AG) **Doug Wylie** concluded while many aspects of the government processes audited are working as intended, it can improve its analysis, monitoring and reporting processes of several programs.

These include:

► *Alberta Environment and Parks: Systems to Manage and Report on the Oil Sands Monitoring Program Follow-up (original audit October 2016)*

The AG recommended that the Environment and Parks, working with Environment and Climate Change Canada, improve processes to ensure the annual report on the oil sands monitoring program is complete, accurate, clear, and timely.

Without those elements, stakeholders will not know the status and results of environmental monitoring in the oil sands and cannot hold the government accountable for meeting its commitment to ensure environmentally responsible development of the oil sands, the report says.

► *Alberta Labour: Systems to Update Alberta's Workforce Strategies (new audit)*

The AG recommended that Alberta Labour regularly measure and report on the results of its current workforce strategies, including lessons learned.

Without effective processes to monitor progress and report on results of its workforce strategies, the department risks not achieving planned results and not demonstrating value for taxpayer money spent. Long-term planned results will succumb to short-term needs and not support the needs of vulnerable Albertans.

► *Service Alberta: Contract Management Processes (new audit)*

The AG found Service Alberta did not in all significant respects have effective processes to manage SuperNet contracts. Processes related to performance measurement, compliance with contractual obligations, and contract evaluation were deficient and not working together. As a result, the department needed to extend the SuperNet operating agreement because it was not prepared for any other option. Parties to the contract are not interpreting the terms and conditions in the contracts consistently, the AG said. Inconsistent interpretation results in wasted time and increased cost, a higher risk of contract non-compliance, and a higher risk that the department will not achieve its desired results from the contracts.

Wylie recommended Service Alberta develop processes to improve:

- measuring, monitoring, and reporting of the performance of its large and complex contracts.
- monitoring and enforcement of contract compliance to ensure that the desired results of the contract are achieved.
- evaluation of contracts and implement risk mitigation strategies and lessons learned where required.

Without effective monitoring and enforcement of contract terms and conditions, the department will not achieve the desired outcomes of contracts.

Details are [here](#). ❑

Government Scan...

The following announcements were made this week by the provincial government. The title of the announcement, as written by the government, is in bold. Cabinet

decisions, called Orders in Council, are marked with the abbreviation “OC” and the number of the decision. Copies of the full text of the OCs mentioned below are available online [here](#).

The original OC included a provision that prescribed the remuneration and expenses payable to the members of the board of trustees of the M.S.I. Foundation as that specified in Schedule 1, Part A of the Committee Remuneration Order, subject to review. It was removed from the OC.

Community and Social Services

8 November 2018

Helping the Economic Recovery Reach All Albertans

Community and social services minister **Irfan Sabir** introduced Bill 26, *An Act to Combat Poverty and Fight for Albertans with Disabilities*, which link social benefits like Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) with inflation.

The legislation would mark the first increase to AISH benefits since 2012. In future years, benefit rates for financial assistance programs, including AISH, Learners Benefits and Barriers to Full Employment supports, would be connected to the Consumer Price Index.

Details are [here](#).

Education

7 November 2018

Shift in Curriculum Development to Benefit Students

Alberta Education is shifting curriculum development time lines to include Grade 9 earlier in the development process.

The shift allows curriculum working groups to begin developing Grades 5–9 curriculum in November 2018.

Details are [here](#).

Environment and Parks

2 November 2018

Respecting Indigenous Rights in Castle Parks

Alberta Parks and the Piikani Nation have signed Cooperative Management Terms of Reference to support Indigenous knowledge and culture in the

Castle provincial parks.

The Castle Management Plan was the first time Alberta Parks included a primary objective respecting Indigenous rights and a chapter devoted to First Nations. The terms of reference create a management board that will increase cultural practices on the landscape and protect access to areas of cultural significance.

Details are [here](#).

Health

7 November 2018

M.S.I. Foundation Act (section 4).

Cabinet amended Order in Council numbered OC 305/2018 to correct an error. OC 337/2018.

Municipal Affairs

5 November 2018

Strengthening Local Democracy

Municipal affairs minister **Shaye Anderson** introduced Bill 23, *An Act to Renew Local Democracy in Alberta*.

The bill updates and changes the existing act that governs elections for municipalities, school boards, Métis Settlements and irrigation districts.

It gives responsibility to the Alberta election commissioner to investigate, prosecute and enforce rules related to campaign finance and third-party advertising. General administration of local elections would be left to each jurisdiction.

...continued next page

Appointments Scan...

The provincial government made the following appointments this week. Cabinet appointments are

followed by the Order in Council (OC) number of the decision. The full OCs are available online [here](#).

Advanced Education

7 November 2018

Post-secondary Learning Act (sections 44 and 56).

Cabinet appointed **Jennifer Wood** as a member of The Board of Governors of Olds College for a term to expire on November 5, 2021.

Cabinet reappointed **Anita Heuver** as a member of The Board of Governors for a term to expire on May 26, 2022. OC 338/2018.

Finance

7 November 2018

Alberta Public Agencies Governance

Act (section 14); ATB Financial Act (section 3).

Effective January 1, 2019, Cabinet appointed **Joan Hertz** as a member of the board of directors of ATB Financial for a further term to expire on December 31, 2021, and as chair for a term to expire on December 31, 2021. OC 328/2018.

7 November 2018

Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Act (section 9).

Cabinet reappointed **Gael MacLeod** as a member and cabinet redesignated her as chair of the board of the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission for a term to expire on April

...continued page four

...government

- Other amendments include:
- ▶ lowering contribution limits to \$4,000 province-wide for municipal elections, as well as \$4,000 for school board elections.
 - ▶ reducing the campaign period from the current four years to one year and limiting fund raising and contributions to only that period.
 - ▶ closing the fund raising function

loophole that allows candidates to raise funds without disclosing their donors.

- ▶ requiring communities of more than 5,000 to hold advance votes.
- ▶ establishing a future regulation that would set campaign spending limits for municipal and school board elections, following stakeholder consultations.

Details are [here](#).

Service Alberta

6 November 2018

Sole-source Service Contracts Disclosed for Q2

The Sole-source Service Contract Database has been updated to include the disclosure of 190 contracts with start dates on or before Sept. 30, 2018.

The database provides information on sole-source contracts of \$10,000 or more for services required by Alberta government departments.

Details are [here](#). □

Recent Consultant Lobbyist Registrations

The following lobbyists recently registered to represent the clients below with Alberta's lobby [registry](#).

Consultant Lobbyists (in order of registration)

| Registered | Client | Lobby Firm | Lobbyists | Target Departments/Organizations |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 07-Nov-2018 | Chiniki First Nation | Jordan Cleland Consulting | Jordan Cleland | Alberta Culture and Tourism, Alberta Indigenous Relations, Alberta Economic Development and Trade |
| Financial Benefit or Grant. Advocating and assisting with applications to Alberta Indigenous Climate Planning Program and Alberta Indigenous Climate Capacity Program to assist Chiniki in finding, then applying for, any and all government granting programs for which they may be eligible. Advocating and assisting with applications to Employment Partnerships Program, Aboriginal Business Investment Fund and Aboriginal Economic Partnerships Program. | | | | |
| 06-Nov-2018 | Edwards Lifesciences (Canada) Inc | Global Public Affairs | Randy Pettipas, Steve Long, Kristy Thomson, Candice Laws | Alberta Health, Alberta Economic Development and Trade, Alberta Legislative Assembly, Alberta Seniors and Housing, Alberta Health Services |
| Program or Policy: Medical devices technology. Discussion about Aortic Stenosis, its impact on Albertans, and how Edwards' medical device technology and software can improve patient outcomes and quality of life while addressing capacity within Alberta's health care system. | | | | |
| 06-Nov-2018 | Leafly, Seattle, Washington | Hill+Knowlton Strategies | Sheila Wisniewski, Natalie Sigalet | Alberta Justice and Solicitor General |
| Existing Legislation: Alberta Gaming and Liquor Act. Leafly seeks an educational meeting with the Cannabis Secretariat to build awareness around the Leafly.ca cannabis information platform. Their goal is to ensure they are operating in Alberta within the existing regulations. | | | | |
| 05-Nov-2018 | Bird Rides, Inc. | Foresight Strategic Advisors Inc. | Martin Green, Geoff Owen | Alberta Transportation |
| Existing Legislation: Traffic Safety Act. Bird Rides seeks to understand how Alberta's <i>Traffic Safety Act</i> impacts last-mile electric vehicle sharing throughout the province. | | | | |
| 01-Nov-2018 | MD of Taber | Hayden and Associates | John Hayden, Jack Hayden | Alberta Environment and Parks |
| Program or Policy: Environmentally protected lands. Repatriation and protection of tax recovery lands. | | | | |
| 31-Oct-2018 | Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers | DeLand Strategies Inc. | Charles DeLand | Alberta Environment and Parks, Alberta Energy, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance, Alberta Energy Regulator |
| Program or Policy: Energy policies that relate to oil and gas competitiveness and market access. Clarity, consistency, efficiency, practicality and fairness regarding budget related to ensuring support for the energy sector, including introducing measures to ensure Alberta's oil and gas industry remains competitive; getting resources to new markets and supporting environmental innovation. | | | | |
| 30-Oct-2018 | Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors | Pathway Group | Jeff Bangs, Ron Ross | Alberta Infrastructure, Executive Council, Alberta Transportation, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance |
| Program or Policy: Government Contract Policy. Lobbying to seek mandatory participation by qualified Quantity Surveyors on government contracts. | | | | |

Alberta Scan

Alberta Scan is an electronic newsletter in Adobe Acrobat format. *Scan* is published weekly when the Alberta Legislature is in session and when events warrant between sittings by:

Word of Mouth Communications,
Box 51056, Highlands Post Office,
6525 118 Avenue,
Edmonton, Alberta,
T5W 1G0

GST Registration Number
R136164241RT0001

Subscriptions

Subscriptions to *Alberta Scan* are \$250 plus GST (\$12.50) for one year. Information on bulk subscriptions is available on request. Please make cheques payable to Word of Mouth Communications.

Photocopying

Please do not photocopy this publication. Every photocopy makes it more difficult to gather useful information on your behalf.

Research

Thanks to staff at the Legislature Library for their ongoing help with researching items in this newsletter.

Political Monitor

Word of Mouth Communications provides *Alberta Political Monitor*, a service about ongoing policy developments. Call or email for further information.

Seminars on Alberta Politics

Word of Mouth Communications offers presentations of varying lengths about how the Alberta government decides and how the Cabinet Policy Committee process works. Call or email for further information.

Feedback

If you have suggestions to improve *Alberta Scan*, please contact:

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...appointments

1, 2022.

Cabinet appointed **Roy Whitney** as a member of the board of the Commission for a term to expire on November 5, 2021. OC 329/2018.

Health

7 November 2018

Health Quality Council of Alberta Act (section 4).

Cabinet appointed **Dr. Trevor Theman** as a member and designated him as chair of the board of directors of the Health Quality Council of Alberta (HQCA) for a term to expire on November 5, 2021.

Cabinet appointed **Shirley Kine** and **Sandi Kossey** as members of the board of directors of the HQCA, each for a term to expire on November 5, 2021.

Cabinet appointed **Mohammad Peracha** as a member of the board of directors of the Council for a term to expire on November 5, 2020. OC 336/2018.

Justice and Solicitor General

7 November 2018

Property Rights Advocate Act (section 3).

Cabinet appointed **Karen Johnson** as Property Rights Advocate for a term

to expire on October 23, 2021. OC 332/2018.

7 November 2018

Provincial Court Act (section 9.1).

Cabinet appointed **Cheryl Arcand-Kootenay** as a judge of The Provincial Court of Alberta. OC 333/2018.

Arcand-Kootenay spent much of her legal career in the areas of family and aboriginal law, including as a roster lawyer for the Legal Representation for Children and Youth branch of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, and legal counsel for AKO Child and Family Services, a delegated First Nation agency in Maskwacis.

Cabinet appointed **Michelle Christopher** as a judge of The Provincial Court of Alberta. OC 334/2018.

Prior to her appointment, she served as executive director of Student Legal Assistance, faculty liaison for Pro Bono Students Canada and associate professor of law at the University of Calgary.

Cabinet appointed **Melanie Hayes-Richards** as a judge of The Provincial Court of Alberta. OC 335/2018.

Prior to being appointed, **Hayes-Richards** practised mainly in the area of criminal law, including as a Crown prosecutor and as legal counsel for the Alberta Court of Appeal.

Further biographical details are [here](#). ☐

Regulations Scan...

The provincial cabinet passed the following regulations this week. Copies of the cabinet decisions

(called Orders in Council or “OCs”) are available online [here](#).

Finance

7 November 2018

Public Sector Pension Plans Act (Schedule 1, sections 4 and 5).

Cabinet passed the Local Authorities Pension Plan (2018) Amendment Regulation. OC 330/2018.

7 November 2018

Teachers’ Pension Plans Act (sections 14 and 23).

Cabinet passed the Teachers’ Pension Plans and Legislative Provisions (2018) Amendment Regulation. OC 331/2018. ☐